LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7391 NOTE PREPARED: Jan 27, 2015

BILL NUMBER: SB 465 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: FSSA Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Miller Patricia BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & local

 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{DEDICATED} \\ \underline{\textbf{X}} & \textbf{FEDERAL} \end{array}$

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill makes multiple changes to the administration of the Office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services (FSSA).

The bill repeals the Step Ahead Comprehensive Early Childhood Grant Program.

It makes changes in the manner that voter registration applications and declinations can be transferred.

The bill removes language that provided an incentive payment to the offices of prosecuting attorneys for the investigation or prosecution of food stamp fraud.

The bill repeals language concerning: (1) civil penalties for Medicaid fraud; and (2) public records reports of Medicaid recipients.

The bill removes language that requires families to give consent to bill third-party payers for services provided in the Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities Program (First Steps).

The bill also makes technical and conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2015.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill would replace language that requires families to consent to the First Steps program billing their health insurance with language that allows the program to bill the health insurance if the family provides written consent. This provision would result in the state paying for First

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Steps services for children whose parents refuse to allow the program to bill their health insurance. The requirement was put in place by SEA 112-2006 as a part of a cost-savings program estimated to save the program between \$802,500 and \$1.3 M annually. At the time, First Steps was unable to bill health insurance for the services because parents would not consent to the billing. It was reported that due to coordination of benefits requirements, services could not be billed to Medicaid if the family had a third-party payer and the billing was not attempted. [Additional information on the fiscal impact of this provision will be made available when provided by the FSSA.]

If approved by the Election Division, the bill would add electronic delivery of voter registration applications and declinations to the methods allowed for the Division of Family Resources (DFR) to transmit the information to the appropriate circuit court clerk or board of registration. This provision would provide for an administrative efficiency that could decrease the cost of certified mailing or hand delivery by an employee that is currently associated with compliance with this provision.

The bill would repeal the Step Ahead program and an incentive program for local prosecutors to investigate or prosecute food stamp fraud. The Step Ahead program is not currently funded. The incentive grant program for local prosecutors also appears to be unfunded. [This information will be updated when available from FSSA.]

The bill substitutes the phrase "intellectual disability" for "mental retardation", replaces the term AFDC with TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families), and replaces food stamps with SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Election Division.

Local Agencies Affected: Circuit court clerks or boards of registration.

Information Sources:

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